

# **APPENDIX A**

## **COMMENTS FROM TAKOMA AREA INTERVIEWS**

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### **Stakeholder Comments in Takoma:**

As part of the process for putting the study together, DDOT interviewed a number of major stakeholders in the MBT including community leaders, trail advocates, community groups, local elected officials, and local businesses. As many interviewees mentioned the same issues, they are listed once below. Compiled below are the comments from these meetings.

- The trail should not be on narrow, high traffic roads.
- The trail should cross as few intersections as possible.
- The trail should be easily accessible at as many points along the trail as possible.
- The trail should be easily accessible to public transportation (Metro, Ride-on, etc.)
- The trail should not pass behind the Cady Lee house, the Eastmont Cooperative and the apartment buildings on Eastern Ave.
- The trail and, if chosen, associated bridges, should be aesthetically pleasing and not an eyesore.
- The trail should incorporate site-specific art.
- The trail should respect the historic character of the Historic District.
- The trail should provide a connection from Montgomery College to the Takoma Metro Station.
- As the MBT is in the District of Columbia and Montgomery County, the two ends of the trail should connect at the border with similar designs, materials and signage.
- The trail should not disrupt the environment including trees, stormwater runoff, and soil erosion.
- Signage to and from the trail should be clear and precise.
- There should be signage directing trail users to local attractions (businesses, transportation, parking, etc.)
- There should be improved bicycle facilities (racks, lockers, water fountains, etc.) along the trail.
- Personal safety for trail users must be addressed and clearly defined.
- The trails should be well-lit.
- The trail should not have any extended fenced portions where a trail user could be trapped with an assailant.
- Crime introduced from other areas via the trail must be addressed. (e.g. Criminals using the trail for a getaway.)
- Trail should be screened/fenced from views into adjacent neighbors' homes.
- Trail should pass by 4<sup>th</sup> St. business area to promote economic development.